

HW:

This refers both to your correspondence with the commercial artist in SF and to the letter in Spanish. We feel there is a good chance that both may be designed to waste your time and divert you.

The letter particularly, as you apparently view it with some doubt yourself. A positive link between Hunt and Oswald is indeed an inviting wild goose chase.

It seems remarkable here that coinciding with this we have a sudden willingness on the part of our old friend now living in SF to do what he was careful to avoid doing earlier when you asked him. There may be a perfectly good reason for this willingness, and I hope there is, but I would want to know what it is and how it stacks up before I counted on it too much.

By the way, I think I remember that either the L or the S in L&S died a few months ago. Could be that in liquidating his affairs some of these books turned up and were put on the market. There thus could be a perfectly good explanation for the appearance of the books your commercial artist found.

As I say, all this may be merely coincidental and not inter-related in any way, but you have had time-wasting diversions thrown across your path before (remember the waif, how often she popped up with another crisis just when you were getting going on something ?) and while this probably conveys nothing you haven't thought of yourself, I felt it advisable to let you know our first impressions.

Best *John* - jdw2sept75

JDW: Your 9/2 on the artist and the old friend remind me that I was given the old friend's new address by this artist. wrote O.F. at the correct address as given and have had the letter returned by the P.O. as the wrong - no such - address.

The Artist may be an underinformed by willing helper. All to date indicates this probability.

However, I have not moved and there has been ample time for me to have heard. Lou Swift did die. However, he either paid for the books he got or got credit from Parallax or was a very bad businessman. Last I heard from him he refused to handle WW IV. I asked. (I don't think this makes a mysterious death of him.)

No word from waif since her first from the funnyfarm. I've thought of this often and if I had time would write funnyfarm manager. She had the kind of emotional problems that, if reality ever broke through, could have been deadly. I may have had this cross the mind when you were writing this. About then, anyway, but in different context.

I've not even heard from O.F. about WW IV. Atypical as can be.

Duties call HW, 9/6/75 *fu*